

THERE IS CLAIMED:

1. A solar generator panel, in particular for spacecraft, including at least one reflector for reflecting solar radiation onto at least one photovoltaic cell of said panel, and wherein said reflector takes the form of a flexible material blade, a first end of which is fixed to said panel and a second end of which remains free, and said material has mechanical properties such that, in a first position, in the absence of vertical pressure, it maintains itself erect so that its free end points to outer space, thereby defining an upper face that faces outer space and an opposite lower face that faces said panel, and, in a second position, in response to vertical pressure, it orients its upper face toward the plane of said panel.
2. The panel claimed in claim 1 wherein only said upper face is covered with a film optically adapted to reflect solar radiation and optionally covered with a protective coating.
3. The panel claimed in claim 1 wherein the mechanical properties of said flexible material are such that in equilibrium in said first position said upper face is concave.
4. The panel claimed in claim 1, further including a plurality of reflectors grouped into pairs and whose lower faces face each other in said first position with the reflectors of each pair in contact at least at their free end and at least one of the upper faces of each pair being oriented toward the plane of the panel in their second position.
5. The panel claimed in claim 4 wherein the mechanical properties of said flexible material are such that, in equilibrium in said first position, each reflector forms a plane except for its free end which is curved outward to support the coming into contact of said reflectors during the phase of releasing said vertical pressure.
6. The panel claimed in claim 4 wherein the surfaces of said lower faces have a low coefficient of friction.
7. The panel claimed in claim 4 wherein said upper faces of each pair are folded on themselves in opposite directions in said second position.
8. The panel claimed in claim 4 wherein, in said second position, a first upper face of a first reflector in each pair is oriented toward the plane of said panel and the second reflector is oriented to face said lower

- surface of said first reflector.
9. A spacecraft, such as a satellite, including a solar generator panel as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8.